

Centre for Native Education

2110 Mackay, room 311, Montreal, Quebec

January 1996



A Word from the Coordinator

The days are short in winter and stomachs often go empty when Kiwetin, the North wind, rules the land with his icy breath. This is why Pipon, the winter season, is the time when Native people tell sacred stories - so that the old and the young can forget for a short time the cold and hunger that plague them. And so that the Elders impart some wisdom to the younger generations. The following sacred story is told by the Plains Cree people.

Once, long ago, when the world was created, it is said that Wisahkecahk retired to the North. Because he sat still on a rock for long periods of time, pine trees had started to grow out of his head and icicles hung down from his eyebrows. One morning, two men decided to walk towards the North. When they came upon him, Wisahkecahk asked them what was their wish. The first man said that he wanted to live long enough to see all his children well established.

Wisahkecahk thought that this was wise and granted the man his wish.

The second man told Wisahkecahk that his wish was to live forever. Wisahkecahk asked him if this is what he really wanted. The man replied that it was. And so

Wisahkecahk took hold of him, thrashed him about and pounded him into the ground until he turned into a rock. In this way, Wisahkecahk had granted the second man his wish for only rocks live forever...

An Inuit Drum Dancer at Concordia

On March 14, 1996, the Centre for Native Education will host an evening with Angaangaq Lyberth, an Inuit drum dancer who will speak on spirituality and traditional values. Details will be published at a later date. All Native people welcome!

Native Perspectives on Spirituality and Justice

Speaking of speaking, the Coordinator of the Centre for Native Education was invited to speak at Campus Ministry on February 13th, 1996 at 5h00. The subject of the discussion will be *Historical Perspectives on the Plains Cree Tradition*. It is an informal gathering so if you would like to attend and put in your two cents you are more than welcome!

Concordia Campus Ministry
2090 Mackay (Annex Z)

It's Muskrat. No! Mink...

On January 30, 1996, the Centre for Native Education was part of the Student Services Festival which was held on the Mezzanine of the Hall Building. Students were able to learn more about the Centre's services and about Native people in general. Among the items displayed, there was a beaver pelt and only about seven people knew what it was! There was free pizza, popcorn and coffee for



students who dropped by and each table had a prize to be won. Ming Yuan Huang, a Computer Science student, won the basket of Native foods raffled off by the Centre for Native Education. All in all, a very successful day!

Attention All AISES Members!

Tired of winter yet? Walt Disney Imagineering has launched Imagi Nations, its 1996 Design Competition. If you are a student in Architecture, Computer Animation, Computer Graphics, Computer Science, Creative Writing, Engineering, Fine Arts, Graphic Design, Sculpting or Visual Arts, you could win a trip to Walt Disney, California and even work there for 6 months! All you have to do is demonstrate your creativity by designing a theme park, a ride or an attraction! Deadline for application is March 31. Application forms are available at the Centre for Native Education.

Job Offer

Cowansville Medium Security Penitentiary is looking for a Native person who can administer a program on Native culture to Native inmates. The ideal candidate is bilingual (English and French) and has considerable knowledge about cultural, spiritual, social and political aspects of Native people. Workshops are to be held twice a week, between 7h00 and 9h30 pm. Honorarium is approximately \$150 a night. For more information, please contact Manon.

Huzza for Tomoe!

Tomoe Doumani, the Centre for Native Education's faithful student assistant, has much to be proud of these days. As some of

you may know, Tomoe is a Fine Arts student, graduating this semester. Recently, one of his paintings was bought for rental by the Indian Art Centre in Ottawa. And, as if that wasn't enough, you can enjoy Tomoe's work at the Commensal restaurant on the corner of Cote-des-Neiges and Queen Mary Road. The exhibit runs from January 15 to February 28, 1996. Hurry out there and grab a painting while you can! In a few years from now, Tomoe's artwork will be sinfully expensive....

Upcoming Conferences

Wellness and Women VII
February 5-9
San Diego, California

March 18-22
Portland, Oregon

Community Based Energy Efficiency
February 9-11
Montreal, Quebec

Anyone interested in attending this Conference, please contact Manon as soon as possible!

AISES Leadership Conference
March 28-31
Colorado Springs, Colorado

Wellness and Native Men V
May 6-10
Sante Fe, New Mexico

Canadian Federation of Students

The Canadian Federation of Students is publishing a national aboriginal students newsletter. The first issue will focus on Aboriginal and Treaty Rights. Interested in submitting an article? Contact Manon.